

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: SCHWARTZ et al.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/US99/13488

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 6/15/99

U.S. SERIAL NUMBER: 09/719,609

TITLE: TECHNIQUE FOR SECURING A SYSTEM CONFIGURATION OF A

POSTAGE FRANKING SYSTEM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 770P009579-US(PCT)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAY 4 - 2001

Technology Center 2100

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified, patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the Title and before the first paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

AI

This application claims the benefit of the earlier filed International Application No. PCT/US99/13488, International Filing Date, 15 June 1999, which designated the United States of America, and which international application was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English as WO Publication No. WO 99/66422 on 23 December 1999.